

09-21-04

Atty. Docket No. 60,152-942

36 53

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Broich, et al.

Serial Number: 10/037,068 Group Art Unit: 3653

Filed: November 7, 2001 Examiner: Shapiro, Jeffery A.

Title: SUPPLY SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPERATION

Attorney Docket No.: 60,152-942

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

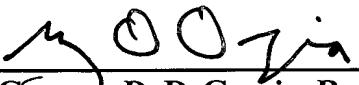
Pursuant to Rule 97 and in compliance with Rule 56, Applicants submit herewith the items listed on the attached Form PTO-SB08 and hereby requests that the Office consider them in its consideration of the above-referenced application and make them of record in the case. Copies of the listed items are enclosed. In accordance with 37 CFR § 97(e), Applicants hereby certify that each item contained herein was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office (European Search Authority) in a counterpart foreign application.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Applicants believe that no fee is due for the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, should there be a fee associated with this document, please charge it to Deposit Account No. 08-2789. **A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.**

Respectfully submitted,

**HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.**

  
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**Gregory D. DeGrazia, Reg. No. 48,944**  
The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite 101  
39400 Woodward Avenue  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-5151  
Telephone: (248) 723-0325

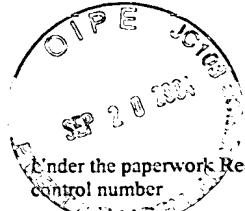
Dated: September 20, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the enclosed **Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," Mailing Label No. **EV520885843US** and addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on **September 20, 2004**.

  
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Tracy L. Smith

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Application Number	10/037,068
(use as many sheets as necessary)		Filing Date	November 7, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Broich, et al.
		Art Unit	3653
		Examiner Name	Jeffrey A. Shapiro
Sheet	1	of	Attorney Docket Number
60,152-942			

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sub>6</sub>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		DE 41 26 689 A1	03-05-1992	Sticht		
		FR 2 670 430 A1	06-19-1992	Andre		
		JP Abstract 06198252	07-19-1994	Koichi		
		JP Abstract 57195016	11-30-1982	Yoshiaki		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFT 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/08B (08-03) (modified)

Approved for use through 7/31/2006 OMB 0651-0031

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		Art Unit	3653
		Examiner Name	Jeffrey A. Shapiro
Sheet	2	of	2
		Attorney Docket Number	60,152-942

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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